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Mooney 11.26.60
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THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
CLEVELAND 6. OHIO
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PERSIAN BUST

A Persian bust dating to the fifth century B.C. has just been purchased by The Cleveland Museum of Art through The J. H. Wade Fund. Originally a complete standing figure, the bust portrays a Median noble clutching a lion to his breast in the familiar Near Eastern "Gilgamesh" motive. It is made of lapis lazuli paste and has a suggestion of delicate blue.

It is, so far, a unique example of small scale sculpture in the round of the Achaemenid period to have come down to us. Although small it is monumental in character. Only two other examples of human sculpture in the round of the period are known - the little head of lapis lazuli paste excavated at Persepolis and now in the Teheran Museum - and a tiny, crude by comparison, limestone head in the Stocklet collection.

For further information and photographs write or telephone Margaret R. Parkin
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M.11.15.60 Kirkwood and Mooney
M. 11.3.60-metzler
M. 11.23.60- Specials